

**LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
May 13, 2005
10:00 a.m.**

Call to Order

The meeting of the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees was called to order at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, May 13, 2005, at the Library of Michigan, by Elaine Logan, Vice-Chair.

Attendance

Members Present: William Anderson, B. Denise Bartlett, Linda Farynk, Elaine Logan, Fran Pletz, Nancy Robertson, Nancy Skowronski, Francis "Bus" Spaniola, Representative Aldo Vagnozzi

Members Absent: Representative Fran Amos, Barbara Bonge (alternate for Chief Justice Clifford Taylor), Senator Irma Clark-Coleman, Senator Tom George, Cliff Haka

Staff Present: Deb Bacon-Ziegler, Elaine Harrison, Sheryl Mase, Julia Meredith, Judith Moore, Lori Poznanski-Mason (recording secretary)

Visitors: Jill Costello (representing Senator Tom George), Randy Dykhuis, Martha McKee, Roger Mendel

Agenda

BUS SPANIOLA MOVED APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA. DENISE BARTLETT SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Minutes of
March 25, 2005
Meeting**

LINDA FARYNK MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 25, 2005, BOARD MINUTES. BUS SPANIOLA SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Board Reports
Board Members'
Reports**

Fran Pletz stated that the Charlevoix Public Library was delighted with their author visit related to the Michigan Notable Books program and expressed their appreciation to the Board.

Bill Anderson was in Dowagiac for an art event and was invited to visit the library. The Dowagiac library passed a referendum to become a district library.

Bill reported that the committee to conduct interviews for a new state librarian will be meeting soon. The position has been advertised and the deadline for applying is August 1st.

Bill thanked the cooperative directors for taking the lead on the May 15th Librarians Day baseball game at Comerica Park. A total of 14,032 tickets were sold to individuals and 2,000 were purchased by companies. The cooperative directors may be recognized before the game. The presence of the library supporters is expected to be noted at some point also.

About 200 inner city children will also be able to attend the game thanks to the purchase of tickets by library supporters.

Denise Bartlett reported that Roger Ashley from MAME has been busy writing letters in support of K-12 librarian positions to school boards and principals.

Denise mentioned library visits to Australia and Zimbabwe. Australia's library is very proactive. Zimbabwe has video technology capability through the Discovery Channel, but access to electricity is minimal. Denise is looking for donations of videotapes for the Zimbabwe library.

Aldo Vagnozzi noted that Farmington Hills won approval of a dedicated millage by a two-to-one vote.

Jill Costello reported that the HAL budget proposed by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee would provide \$1,000,000 for preservation and access digitization grants and would reduce State Aid to Libraries by \$1,286,000. Jill, from Senator George's office, stated that the Senator wants to show a commitment to digitization but is willing to negotiate the amount.

LM Foundation Report

The 2005 Michigan Notable Books author event and the Night for Notables evening program were launched April 20th. Judith Moore thanked Bill Anderson and Nancy Robertson for their presence and comments at these events. Judith Guest, the keynote speaker for the Night for Notables event, was pleased to be a part of the event and plans to visit the Library of Michigan again.

Judith distributed a list of dates/locations of 2005 Notable Author visits. Judith asked LM Board members to consider attending some of these and encouraged them to introduce themselves and express their hope that everyone enjoys the session brought to them by the Library of Michigan. Fran Pletz mentioned that she has attended one of these sessions already. Roger Mendel was pleased to note that the Notable Author visits list includes some libraries that have never had an author visit before. The funds used to support the author visits was sponsored in part by the Michigan Humanities Council (MHC), Michigan Center for the Book (MCFB), Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) and a matching federal grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

The Library of Michigan Foundation is working with the Michigan Humanities Council to obtain a grant to create a book festival across the state next year.

The three-year business plan the LM Foundation is working on should be completed this summer. This plan will focus on fundraising and operations for the Foundation.

**State Library
Report**

**State Librarian's
Report**

Elaine Harrison from the Library of Michigan attended ALA Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. There were 11 people participating in the Michigan delegation. Fifteen Representatives and Senators were visited.

The Michigan Center for the Book was one of the recipients of the Daniel Boorstin award, presented at the National Center for the Book Idea Exchange in Washington, D.C. This \$1,000 award was received for innovation in structure and management.

Carole Callard, the Genealogy Specialist at the Library of Michigan is retiring July 15th. Her position is funded by the Abrams Foundation.

Bernard Davis, a library assistant in Public and Technical Services, has received orders to report to Iraq. He is expected to leave for Fort Benning, Georgia, in early June.

The importance of contacting members of Congress using letters, email and phone calls was discussed. Personal contact may be the most effective way to approach a legislator. It was suggested to add a personal note to any form letter. It is important to explain why this issue is important in your area and how it will make a difference. A suggestion was made to refrain from using library jargon and acronyms.

Deb Bacon-Ziegler presented a report on the Rural Libraries Conference and distributed conference booklets. The program and its fees are scaled to rural libraries and their budgets. There were 296 registrants for the full three-day conference and there were 50 attendees who attended one day.

The Library of Michigan is part of the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP), which selects themes for summer reading programs and develops corresponding materials. Julia Meredith reported on the 2005 Summer Reading Program and showed the "*Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds*" television ad promoting this program. As part of a collaborative investment, Michigan received the \$350,000 ad for \$1,000. Copies will be available on DVD and VHS. Some libraries will run the ad on electronic kiosks, play it during school visits, or ask their local television stations to air it. The fee to be a part of the collaborative is \$841. Julia also distributed an article she wrote for the MAME Journal on summer programming. The 2006 summer reading program theme for children, suggested by a Michigan librarian, will be *Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales*. The 2006 teen theme is *Creature Feature*.

A copy of the House Appropriations Subcommittee testimony given by Nancy Robertson is included in the Board packet. Any questions can be directed to Nancy.

The Library of Michigan has reduced its hours so staff can cover the 350 student hours cut in the latest budget reduction. The Library is now closed from 8am to 1pm, on Mondays and Thursdays. A question was raised regarding the effect the closing had on school groups. The Museum side of the building remains open during the hours LM is closed. The Library does not see much school group activity.

Grant applications for the Digitization for Preservation and Access Grants for Michigan Libraries are due today, Friday, May 13th.

Nancy Robertson attended a MALC meeting at Central Michigan University. This is a meeting of academic librarians. Nancy would like to pursue how the Library of Michigan and academic libraries can work together more effectively.

Nancy attended the Michigan Notables event, Rural Libraries Conference and the SEMLOL meeting.

A new grant opportunity from LM, MCACA and MHC is available to provide funding to libraries across the state for projects that infuse new arts and cultural resources into community-based literacy programs. Additional information is available on the Library of Michigan Web site.

Nancy will convene a group to list the challenges and issues faced by school librarians. Some of this information may be compiled and provided to the Board prior to the next meeting. A presentation of additional information on school library issues will be given at the September meeting, followed by Board discussion and input.

Partnership

Reports

Cooperatives

Roger Mendel presented and distributed the Cooperative Directors Association report. His cooperative sold 404 of the approximately 1,400 tickets for the May 15th Tigers game.

MLA

The MLA report was distributed at the meeting. Linda Farynk mentioned that Christie Pearson Brandau, Shirley Bruursema and U.S. Representative Peter Hoekstra were chosen to be included on the National Advocacy Honor Roll. Christie's accomplishments included MeL and library cooperation; Shirley is active in MLA, Legislative Day and has done much to train and educate library trustees; and Representative Hoekstra was instrumental in reinstating LSTA a few

years ago.

The 2005 MLA Award Recipients have been chosen and will be honored at the MLA Annual Conference. Additional information on the recipients will be posted on the MLA Web site.

MLC

Randy Dykhuis presented the MLC report. Another cooperative is planning to use the MeL book delivery and two more are in process. One hundred libraries are expected to be a part of MeLCat by the end of the calendar year.

The work of the Michigan Library Digitization Task Force has included recognizing the need to create statewide digitization standards for Michigan.

MAME

The MAME report was distributed at the meeting. Denise Bartlett expressed MAME's appreciation for Julia Meredith's active participation.

Three MAME candidates were elected in the 2005 ALA elections.

Board Action

Martha McKee asked for an endorsement of the Quality Measures Audit Checklist (QSAC) for Cooperatives by the Board.

FRAN PLETZ MOVED THAT THE LM BOARD ENDORSE THE QSAC FOR COOPERATIVES. BUS SPANIOLA SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Michigan is the first state to provide a quality checklist for cooperatives.

**Board Discussion
Items**

Representative Vagnozzi asked for an update on the Patriot Act. Elaine Harrison stated that the Library is asking congressmen to support the SAFE Act. The SAFE Act would make modest changes to several of the Patriot Act's provisions in order to protect Americans' civil liberties. It appears there is bipartisan support for the SAFE Act.

Bill Anderson asked for suggestions on how to perform a quick survey in order to determine the percent of public libraries located downtown in a city central business district. As a member of the Governor's Land Use Panel, Bill would like to hold libraries as an outstanding example of a critical institution not practicing sprawl. Roger Mendel suggested that a quick survey could be done by polling the 12 cooperatives. Sheryl Mase mentioned that Library Development could provide some information on geographic data and public libraries. Board members mentioned examples of places that were committed to building or keeping libraries in their central business districts. Deb Bacon-Ziegler of the Library staff mentioned that children and the elderly are often isolated from institutions that are not in a central business district.

Denise Bartlett gave Bill Anderson a copy of the OCLC survey on the economic impact of libraries.

One of the MLA sessions this fall will be on libraries and cultural and economic development.

Sheryl Mase mentioned that information on community economic and cultural development and state studies will be added to the MeL Internet section.

Old Business

The roles of the Executive and Finance committees will be presented at the September Board meeting.

New Business

No new business was presented to the Board.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is Friday, September 9, 2005, at 10am.

Adjournment

REPRESENTATIVE VAGNOZZI MOVED ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING. NANCY SKOWRONSKI SECONDED.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40a.m.

Elaine Logan, Vice-Chair

Nancy R. Robertson, Acting State Librarian